

Amendment to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1-12. (*cancelled*).

13. (*currently amended*) A method for determining the amount of thyroid stimulating hormone (TSH) receptor autoantibodies in a human serum or plasma sample comprising:

a) contacting said human serum or plasma sample with a functional TSH receptor (TSHr) that is immobilized on a solid support in the presence of labeled antibodies against the TSH receptor for a time sufficient for the autoantibodies in said human or plasma sample to competitively bind to the TSH receptor;

b) removing unbound labeled TSH receptor antibodies; and

c) determining the amount of TSH receptor autoantibodies in the human serum or plasma sample by measuring the amount of label bound to the TSH receptor,

wherein the labeled antibodies against the TSH receptor are affinity purified polyclonal human autoantibodies from a pool of sera from human Graves' disease patients, purified using a recombinant human TSH receptor.

14. (*previously presented*) The method of claim 13, wherein the affinity-purified polyclonal human autoantibodies against the TSH receptor are purified to biochemical homogeneity and have a specific activity of at least 1 IU/mg of protein.

15. (*previously presented*) The method of claim 13, wherein the affinity-purified polyclonal human autoantibodies against the TSH receptor are obtained by purification by affinity chromatography, from a pool of sera of Graves' disease patients, wherein said autoantibodies are bound to an affinity material having a functional human recombinant TSH receptor bound thereto, washed to remove unbound autoantibodies and then eluted from the affinity material.

16. *(previously presented)* The method of claim 13, wherein said affinity-purified polyclonal human autoantibodies against the TSH receptor are labeled with a radioisotope, a chemiluminescent label or a fluorescent label.

17. *(previously presented)* The method of claim 16, wherein said affinity-purified polyclonal human autoantibodies against the TSH receptor are directly or indirectly labeled.